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7 January 1980

25X1 MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED]

Chief, Petroleum Supply Analysis Center, OER

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[REDACTED]
Deputy Director, Center for the Study of Intelligence

FROM: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT: Recent Article in CONTRA

25X1 1. I enjoyed Dick's provocative piece in the last issue of CONTRA questioning OER's building oil production estimates on the sands of data from the oil companies. It does make me wonder whether OER has looked systematically at what the biases of the oil companies would be; that is, why they might want to distort some figures or conceal others. In short, can we estimate where they may be off the mark and, if so, by about how much? [REDACTED]

25X1 2. Beyond that, Dick talks about petroleum reserves a great deal. I had never thought that OER had made predictions about how long the world's reserves were going to last. It seems to me we have been talking production in the near term only. [REDACTED]


STANSFIELD TURNER

cc: Editor, CONTRA

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